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CORRECTED NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

7590 02/26/2004

C. John Brannon
Woodard, Emhardt, Naughton, Moriarty and McNett
Bank One Center/Tower
111 Monument Circle, Suite 3700
Indianapolis, IN 46204-5137

EXAMINER

CARIASO, ALAN B

ART UNIT

CLASS-SUBCLASS

2875

362-582000

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2004

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/992,320	11/19/2001	Eric R. Shute	12003-218	7358

TITLE OF INVENTION: COMBINED OPTICAL LIGHT PIPE AND PROTECTIVE ENCLOSURE

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$300	\$1630	05/11/2004

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** NEITHER A NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE NOR A CORRECTED NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND ANY PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THE THREE MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING ON THE MAILING DATE OF THE PREVIOUSLY-MAILED NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND ENDING ON THE DATE DUE SHOWN ON THIS FORM, OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. MAILING OF THIS CORRECTED NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE DOES NOT CHANGE THE DATE DUE OF THE ISSUE FEE (AND ANY REQUIRED PUBLICATION FEE). IF A REPLY (WITH PAYMENT OF THE ISSUE FEE AND ANY PUBLICATION FEE) WAS FILED IN RESPONSE TO THE PREVIOUSLY-MAILED NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE, THEN NO FURTHER REPLY IS REQUIRED FROM APPLICANT.

All communications regarding this application must include the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE, unless advised to the contrary.



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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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DATE MAILED: 02/26/2004

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/992,320

Examiner

Alan Cariaso

Applicant(s)

DALTON ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to RCE w/ response filed 9 January 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-4,6-12 and 16-19.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 November 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

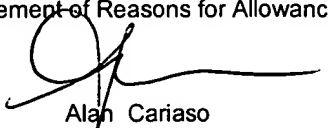
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Alan Cariaso
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2875

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-4, 6-12 and 16-19 are allowable because none of the prior art of record discloses or suggests: a first pocket formed in and substantially encased by an optically transparent volume, the first pocket defining a three-dimensional negative object within the transparent volume, the first pocket encloses a partial vacuum and filled with a gas of air, the first pocket having a second refractive index substantially less than a first refractive index of the optically transparent volume, the first pocket shaped to reflect a beam of light passing from an optical entry point defined on a surface of the transparent volume to an optical transit point; a second pocket defines a second three-dimensional negative object formed within and substantially encapsulated by the optically transparent volume having a third refractive index substantially less than the first refractive index, the second pockets is shaped to totally internally reflect a beam of light from the first pocket passing through the optical transit point and incident upon the second pocket to an optical exit point defined within the optically transparent volume; a hollow recess positioned between the optical transit point and the optical exit point; the recess is positioned such that light redirected from the second pocket or cavity shines through the recess; and wherein light shining through the transparent member is totally internally reflected by the first and second enclosed pockets.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

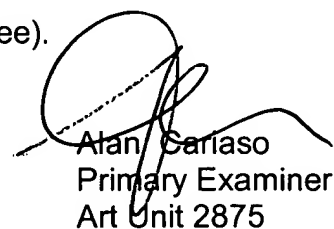
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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alan Cariaso whose telephone number is (571) 272-2366. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandra O'Shea can be reached on (571) 272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Alan Cariaso
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2875

AC
February 9, 2004